

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 12355 170807Z

12
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 /071 W
----- 018212

R 170730Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8999

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E. O. 11652: NA
TAGS: SHUM, RP
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS: DETAINEE RELEASES

REF: MANILA 10621

1. UNDERSECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE BARBERO ANNOUNCED AUGUST 14 THAT 537 DETAINEES HAD BEEN RELEASED FROM MILITARY DETENTION CENTERS DURING LAST 45 DAYS. BARBERO CLAIMED MOST WERE COMMON CRIMINALS AND WERE RELEASED TO CIVILIAN PRISONS. HE SAID THERE ARE NOW 4,468 DETAINEES IN MILITARY DETENTION CENTERS AND THAT THEIR CASES ARE UNDER REVIEW.

2. MOST PROMINENT OF RELEASED DETAINEES IS DANILO VIZMANOS, ARRESTED IN MAY 1974. A RETIRED CAPTAIN IN PHILIPPINE NAVY AND REPORTEDLY GRADUATE OF US MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY, VIZMANOS TOLD AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL HE WAS IN SOLITARY AND INJECTED WITH TRUTH SERUM IMMEDIATELY AFTER DETENTION. VIZMANOS HAD WRITTEN THESIS FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE COLLEGE ADVOCATING RECOGNITION OF PRC. AI REPORT DISCUSSES HIS CASE ON PAGE 39 (SEE MANILA 10121).

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO WAY OF VERIFYING WHETHER BARBERO'S NUMBERS ARE ACCURATE BUT RELEASE OF VIZMANOS, WHO WAS NEVER CHARGED, SUGGESTS GOP IS TRYING TO RID
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ITSELF OF MORE EMBARRASSING DETAINEE CASES AND THEREBY

TAKE SOME STING OUT OF AI REPORT WHEN IT IS FINALLY
RELEASED.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, PRISONERS
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Draft Date: 17 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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